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and of *Gammarus limnæus* and *Hyaella dentata* are given, the student's attention being drawn to those points not requiring dissection. The figures might have been better drawn and engraved, so that the student should have a better model of such work before him, but the brochure will be useful, and we are glad to see such a publication adapted for the use of American students.

MOEBIUS AND HEINCKE'S FISHES OF THE GERMAN OCEAN.—This appears to be an excellent brief account of the marine fishes of the German ocean prepared for popular use, and issued by the Commission for the scientific investigation of the German ocean, whose headquarters are at Kiel. Every species described is accompanied by a good outline figure. There is a map showing their geographical distribution. It is published by Paul Parey, Berlin, 1833, and contains 206 pages.

#### RECENT BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS.

*Egleston, T.*—The method of collecting Flue-dust at Ems on the Lahn. Ext. Trans. Amer. Inst. Ming. Eng., 1883.

—Leaching Gold and Silver ores in the West. Ext. idem.

*Bower, A.*—The Bower Barff Process. Ext. idem.

*Boyd, C. R.*—The Ores of Cripple creek, Va. Ext. idem.

*Spilsbury, E. G.*—Gold Mining in S. Carolina. Ext. idem.

*Coggin, F. G.*—Copper Slime Treatment. Ext. idem.

*Witherow, J. P.*—The Blast Furnace of the Crozer Steel and Iron Company at Roanoke, Va. Ext. idem.

*Troilius Magnus.*—On the determination of Manganese in Spiegel, Ferro-manganese, Steel, etc. Ext. idem.

*Mackintosh, J. B.*—The volumetric determination of Manganese. Ext. idem.

*Raymond, R. W.*—The Divining Rod. Ext. idem.

—The natural Coke of Chester county, Va. Ext. idem.

*Stetefeldt, C. A.*—The Shelf Dry Kiln. Ext. idem.

*McCreath, A. S.*—The Iron ores of the Valley of Virginia. Ext. idem.

*Rothwell, R. P.*—The treatment of Gold-bearing arsenical ores at Deloro, Ontario, Canada. Ext. idem.

*Hitchcock, C. H.*—The geological position of the Philadelphia gneisses. Ext. idem.

*Henderson, C. H.*—The Copper deposits of the South Mountain. Ext. idem.

*Blake, W. P.*—Mining and storing Ice. Ext. idem.  
All from the institute.

*Hunt, T. S.*—The decay of Rocks geologically considered. Ext. Amer. Jour. of Science, Sept., 1883. From the author.

*Broadhead, G. C.*—The Carboniferous Rocks of Eastern Kansas. Ext. Trans. St. Louis Acad. Science, 1883. From the author.

*Bennett, A. W.*—On the constancy of insects in their visits to Flowers. Ext. Linnean Soc. Journal, 1883. From the author.

*Ryder, J. A.*—On the Thread-bearing Eggs of the Silversides (Menidia). Ext. Bull. U. S. Fish Commission, 1883. From the author.

*Drown, T. M.*—Technical Training. An address to the Alumni Association of Lehigh University, June 20, 1883. From the author.

*Dollo, M. L.*—Quatrième Note sur les Dinosauriens de Bernissart. Ext. du Bull. du Musée Royal d'Hist. Nat. de Belgique. 1883. From the author.

—Note sur les Restes de Dinosauriens rencontrés dans le Crétacé Supérieur de Belgique, 1883. From the author.

*Agassiz, A.*—The Tortugas and Florida reefs. From Memoirs of Amer. Acad. of Arts and Sciences. June, 1883. From the author.

*Geinitz, H. B.*—Ueber neue Funde in den Phosphat lagern von Helmstedt, Büddenstedt und Schleweke, 1883. From the author.

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## GENERAL NOTES.

### GEOGRAPHY AND TRAVELS.<sup>1</sup>

ASIA.—A paper read before the Royal Geographical Society by Mr. E. C. Baber, Chinese secretary to H. M. Legation, Peking, corrects some erroneous ideas respecting that country. The six western provinces, the eastern boundaries of which coincide tolerably well with the 110th meridian, are everywhere mountainous and for the most part poor and sparsely populated, while the twelve eastern provinces are level, populous and well-cultivated. The untrustworthiness of the native census is apparent to any one who has lived long in China, and knows, on the one hand, the large extent of thinly-populated country, and, on the other, the character of the officials employed upon the census. By comparison with British India, Mr. Baber believes about 250,000,000 a fair estimate of the population.

Although the Chinese race has spread over so large a territory, and absorbed, more by its energy and superior civilization, combined with constant intermarriages, than by force, many native races, one race at least has in part remained independent. This is the Lolo, or as they call themselves, Lo-su and Ngo-su, the *Coloman* of Marco Polo. Though confined within a much smaller territory than in the days of Marco, an almost impregnable mountain country is still held by them, and from it they descend upon the lowlands to levy blackmail and take prisoners for ransom or as slaves. This they call taking "rent" for the territory they were dispossessed of some 200 years ago. They never intermarry with the Chinese, and this, more than their robust frames, warlike habits or strong fastnesses, has preserved their race intact. The Lolos still burn their dead, as in Marco's time. In the discussion which followed this paper, Sir T. Wade said, that after a residence of twenty years in Peking, he believed its population less than half a million, while the great fair or market town of Hankow could never have had more. The men of Kuang-lung and Kuang-si were easily distinguished from those of the rest of the empire, and Kuang-lung was not joined to the empire until six centuries after Christ. These people were not improbably a Malay immigration. While all other Chinese spoke of themselves as men of Han, from the dynasty of that name

<sup>1</sup>This department is edited by W. N. LOCKINGTON, Philadelphia.